

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Public Notice

Proposed Modification to the Clean Air Act Permit Program Permit for
Reliant Energy Aurora

Reliant Energy Aurora has applied a modification of the Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit for its natural gas-fired electric power plant at 2909 Eola Road in Aurora. The revisions to the permit would change certain permit conditions for the existing turbines at the plant, including allowing NO_x emissions to be monitored using the protocol for low mass emission units under the federal Acid Rain Program. The revised permit would also address new emission units installed at the plant to support operation of the turbines. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has made a preliminary determination to issue a revised permit. Because the revisions would qualify as a significant modification of the current CAAPP permit, the Illinois EPA has prepared a draft of a revised permit and is accepting public comments before taking final action on the application.

Comments on the proposed revisions to the permit must be postmarked by midnight March 22, 2006. If sufficient interest is expressed in the revisions, a hearing may be held. Requests for information, comments, and questions should be directed to Brad Frost, Division of Air Pollution Control, Illinois EPA, PO Box 19506, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9506, phone 217/782-2113, TDD 217/782-9143.

Persons wanting more information may obtain copies of the draft permit and project summary at www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.htm (please look under All Permit Records, Title V, Significant Modification). These documents and the application are available at the Illinois EPA's offices at 9511 West Harrison in Des Plaines, 847/294-4000 and 1340 N. Ninth St., Springfield, 217/782-7027 (for either location, please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). Copies of the documents will be made available upon request.

The CAAPP is Illinois' operating permit program for major sources of emissions, as required by Title V of the Clean Air Act (Act). In addition to implementing Title V of the Act, CAAPP permits may contain "Title I Condition," i.e., conditions established under the permit programs for new and modified emission units, pursuant to Title I of the Act. The proposed revision to the CAAPP permit would establish new Title I conditions for the new emission units at the plant and revise Title I Conditions for the existing units. In particular, the NO_x emission limit for the existing turbines would be lowered so that the permitted NO_x emissions of the plant would not change.